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SUZUKI: SOVIET MORATORIUM IS 'BARGAINING TACTIC'

OW170613 Tokyo KYODO in English 0558 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 (KYODO) -- Japan's Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki said Wednesday the Soviet moratorium on the deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles in European Russia could be Soviet bargaining tactics.

Suzuki told reporters the United States and the Soviet Union suspect each other. There would be no effective means of verifying the Soviet moratorium, he said.

Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev, speaking at a trade union congress in Moscow Tuesday, said the Soviet Union is "freezing...armaments of this kind already stationed and suspending the replacement of old missiles...by newer SS-20 missiles."

SAKURAUCHI, FRENCH MINISTER JOBERT HOLD TALKS

OW170501 Tokyo KYODO in English 0447 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 (KYODO) -- French Foreign Trade Minister Michel Jobert Wednesday urged Japan to show a positive stance to alleviate the dollar 1 billion imbalance in bilateral trade now running in its favor. Meeting Foreign Minister Yoshio Sakurauchi, Jobert proposed more Japanese imports of French products such as aircraft and farm products.

He indicated a political solution was needed to trade problems, by saying preparations for French President Francois Mitterrand's visit to Japan next month were not yet enough, Japanese officials said.

Sakurauchi was quoted as replying that he is convinced the problem of the trade imbalance and Japan's efforts to increase its imports should be looked at from a long-range perspective. The foreign minister cited the results of the bilateral trade talks held in Tokyo earlier this week and added that it is important to set the things on the right rail.

Delegations End Trade Talks

OW161305 Tokyo KYODO in English 1242 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 (KYODO) -- Japan and France Tuesday wound up two days of talks in Tokyo aimed at promoting the imports of manufactured French goods to Japan.

Government sources said the French delegation called, among other things, for a cut in the tariff on French brandy and a reduction in Japan's liquor tax. However, the Japanese rejected the request, drawing strong dissatisfaction from the French side, the sources said.

The Japanese pointed out the movement in France to curb the imports of Japanese television sets and motorbikes, urging an immediate improvement in the situation. The French stressed France's big trade deficit with Japan, the sources said.

ITALIAN PRESIDENT PERTINI DEPARTS 15 MAR

OW150129 Tokyo KYODO in English 0118 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] Osaka, March 15 (KYODO) -- President Alessandro Pertini of Italy left for home Monday morning after completing a week's state visit to Japan. Pertini arrived in Tokyo on March 9. He was the first head of state of Italy to visit the country.

During his stay, the president met with the emperor, held talks with Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki and delivered a speech at a joint session of the two houses of the Diet. He also visited the atom-bombed city of Hiroshima as well as Kyoto and Osaka in western Japan.

DFRF DENIES NORTH INVOLVED IN ASSASSINATION PLOT

SK170701 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2300 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Statement by the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, dated 16 March -- read by announcer]

[Text] Recently the South Korean fascist clique fabricated the so-called case of an international assassination plot and is perpetrating vicious and heinous schemes slandering and defaming us -- linking it with us -- and framing and persecuting overseas democratic forces -- linking it with them.

As has been already reported, on 6 March the South Korean puppets waged a riotous rally and demonstration in Canada, mobilizing their anticommunist hooligans, and kicked up a row slandering and calling for the expulsion of Mr Choe Hong-hui, who has nothing to do with this case. While trying to link the case with that man yesterday and with this man today, the South Korean puppets are unreasonably scheming to link the case even with Mr Choe Tok-sin, who is residing in the United States, thereby trying to expand the case throughout the American continent.

This frantic racket by the Chon Tu-hwan ring is a calculated reactionary offensive designed to damage the international prestige of our republic and to obliterate the movement against fascism and for democracy rapidly growing among overseas Korean compatriots and their aspiration for the peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

The Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland [DFRF] sternly condemns this indiscreet slanderous racket by the South Korean puppet clique with surging national indignation, recognizing that it is another clumsy drama to escape their situation of isolation and rejection at home and abroad. It is a hackneyed tactic of the South Korean fascist clique to fabricate a preposterous plot, to slander and defame us and to suppress and persecute overseas democratic forces by linking them with us.

In the 1960's the South Korean puppets fabricated the so-called East Berlin case, linking it with us and illegally kidnapped overseas Korean compatriots in West Germany, including intellectuals and students there, to Seoul. Finding that there was no evidence, the South Korean puppets had to release them. When they abducted from Japan Kim Tae-chung, a democratic figure of South Korea, who was staging an overseas democratic movement in the early 1970's, the South Korean puppets also clamored about his connection with the North in an attempt to conceal their international terrorism. When they played such a drama as the 15 August shooting case, they linked it with us and Chongnyon and perpetrated dastardly, slanderous acts of suppressing the Korean compatriots in Japan.

In particular, entering the 1980's, the Chon Tu-hwan clique directed the spearhead of its fascist attack to the continent of America and frantically tried to terrorize Korean personages residing in the United States and Canada.

When Mr Choe Hong-hui went to Argentina to participate in the international taekwondo championship held there, they also tried to assassinate him. They even kicked up a signature campaign to expel Mr Choe Tok-sin and other influential Korean figures from the United States. The South Korean puppets' dastardly acts are vividly exposed by the fact that they arrested and detained Hong Song-kil, a Korean compatriot from the United States who was visiting South Korea to meet his relatives, for his having visited the republic.

No matter how frantically they may run wild to persecute overseas compatriots, linking them with us, and to obliterate the overseas democratic movement, the South Korean fascist clique cannot block the trend of the Koreans abroad longing for the republic and advancing along the road of democracy and reunification.

The chief aim of the recent case of an international assassination plot is to create a greater shock and thus block the visit of overseas compatriots to the fatherland and completely obliterate the overseas democratic movement at any cost.

However, no matter how frantically those who specialize in terrorism may eradicate overseas democratic forces by linking them with us, they can gain nothing from it. Terrorism against individuals has nothing to do with our republic. We have consistently opposed it. The current incident has nothing to do with us. We do not know about the Canadian people who were reportedly arrested by the Canadian police. We know nothing about compatriot Choe Chung-hwa, who was allegedly involved in this incident, except the fact that he visited the republic in 1980 together with some 10 taekwondo instructors and held an exhibition match. Thus, foreign news reports have fairly stated that they could not find any evidence proving North's involvement.

The majority of compatriots in Canada and other countries are deriding the rackets of the South Korean ruling faction, regarding them as unconvincing slander. The South Korean authorities are attempting to deliberately connect the case with us. However, they have failed to present any material to convince the people of the world. Despite this fact, the South Korean puppets and slandering and calumniating us by linking Mr Choe Hong-hui and other democratic overseas figures with us. This can neither be justified nor tolerated.

In fact, terrorism and assassination are the monopoly of the South Korean ruling faction. Terrorism and assassination have been historically perpetrated within the South Korean ruling circles. The Chon Tu-hwan fascist regime itself is none other than the product of a most vicious terrorist act. The Chon Tu-hwan military fascist regime is a most barbarous, murderous and fascist-terrorist regime fabricated on political ruins after massacring tens of thousands of fellow countrymen and eliminating all political rivals. Within this wicked murderers' group, secret feuds and struggles for power are constantly being waged. If there were a plot to assassinate the traitor Chon Tu-hwan as advertized by the South Korean puppets, it must be a plot hatched within the present South Korean ruling quarters, like the case of assassination of the former dictator.

Black cannot be converted into white. The South Korean fascist elements should realize that the killer of others would become the killer himself. The more maliciously the South Korean puppets slander us and persecute overseas compatriots, clinging to the foolish anticommunist intrigues, the graver their crimes will become and the more bitter the public denunciation they will invite at home and abroad.

The South Korean rulers must discontinue the criminal anticommunist burlesque and stop at once their suppression of overseas democratic figures. Overseas compatriots should, by no means, get involved in the slanderous anticommunist maneuvers of the Chon Tu-hwan clique, creating antagonism and distrust among the same people. They should courageously advance along the road of true patriotism, democracy and reunification against the fascist clique.

The DFRF Central Committee, as in the past, will safeguard the democratic national rights of overseas compatriots and will tenaciously support and encourage their patriotic movement for democracy and the peaceful reunification.

[Signed] Central Committee, Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland
16 March 1982, Pyongyang

VRPR HITS U.S. MOVE TO EXPLOIT KOREAN OILFIELDS

SK160448 (Clandestine) Voice of the Revolutionary Party for Reunification in Korean
to South Korea 1000 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Commentary: "U.S. Moves To Exploit Oil Deposits Around Korean Peninsula," from "Hour for the Armed Forces" program]

[Text] As you know, the United States has tried and is trying to use the Korean Peninsula not only as a military base for aggression, but also as a source of raw materials. According to reports in U.S. newspapers and magazines, in the west sea of our country an oil belt extends from southwest of the Korean Peninsula to northeast China and the Soviet Union, and there is another vast oil belt extending south toward Indonesia.

Of course, this is not a new fact. In the Vietnam war period, U.S. oil companies, in collusion with the Pentagon, dispatched technicians on a nuclear submarine of the 7th Fleet and investigated oil deposits in these areas. Later they also secretly investigated oil and natural gas deposits around the Korean Peninsula, utilizing a satellite and spy planes. After the investigation, a high-ranking U.S. oil company official disclosed that prospects for oil and natural gas exploitation in these areas are very bright, with deposits larger than those in the U.S. state of Louisiana.

The Reagan administration is trying to secure oil belts around the Korean Peninsula by establishing a so-called oil zone security system. The United States has reportedly taken political measures in a bid to secure these rich oil belts.

The focus of U.S. policy toward the Korean Peninsula in the 1980's is to formulate a new policy to meet a newly developing reality pursued by the Rockefeller group. In other words, the focus of U.S. policy toward the Korean Peninsula is to realize domination over the entire peninsula to secure new oil resources. Political domination of this area can be realized only through a big-stick policy backed by military force. Military domination over the Korean Peninsula is a shortcut to secure oilfields. This is the very touchstone of the policy toward the Korean Peninsula pursued by the Reagan regime and the U.S. oil monopoly companies.

Officers and men of the South Korean Army: What we should understand from the intent of U.S. policy to secure oil deposits around the Korean Peninsula is the fact that the true color of the U.S. imperialists has not been changed and that they are today trying to dominate the entire Korean Peninsula, as in the past. You can easily understand that the South Korea-U.S. joint exercise code-named "Team Spirit 1982," which is being staged by the United States throughout South Korea, is not a mere military exercise but a preliminary war conducted in anticipation of a northward invasion and a test war closely related to the U.S. policy of military domination over the Korean Peninsula in a bid to secure oil deposits.

If a war breaks out on the Korean Peninsula, those who will suffer wartime disasters are our fellow countrymen, including officers and men of the South Korean Army. Therefore, you must not be dragged into an unjustifiable war as hired mercenary troops of the United States. Also, you must not be deprived of your precious youth.

CONVOCAION OF FIRST SPA SESSION 5 APR ANNOUNCED

SK170040 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2216 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA) -- The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, issued a decision of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea dated March 16 on the convocation of the Supreme People's Assembly.

According to the decision, the first session of the Seventh Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK will be convened on April 5, 1982, in Pyongyang.

YI CHONG-OK LEAVES GRENADA, VISITS NICARAGUA

Departs Grenada 14 Mar

SK170037 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2212 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA) -- The party and government delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea headed by Comrade Yi Chong-ok, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea and premier of the Administration Council, left St. Georges on March 14 after concluding its visit to Grenada, according to a report. The delegation was seen off at the airport by the minister of agriculture, the minister of economy and other personages concerned of Grenada.

The head of the delegation made public a departure statement at the airport. Noting that the party and government delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea attended celebrations of the third anniversary of the victory of the revolution in Grenada and significantly marked the auspicious holiday together with the Grenadian people, the statement expressed satisfaction with the fine fruit of the delegation's visit.

The statement expressed the belief that the bonds of solidarity and cooperation between the parties, governments and peoples of Korea and Grenada would further consolidate and develop through the carrying out of the common cause of anti-imperialism and independence.

Arrives in Nicaragua

SK170456 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0346 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA) -- The party and government delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea headed by Comrade Yi Chong-ok, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea and premier of the Administration Council, arrived in Managua on March 14 for an official goodwill visit to Nicaragua, according to a report.

It was met at the airport by coordinator of the Council of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua Daniel Ortega Saavedra; members of the council Rafael Cordova Rivas and Sergio Ramirez Mercado; members of the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front Tomas Borge Martinez, minister of the interior, and Victor Tirado; the president of the Supreme Court, vice-chairmen of the State Council, ministers of the government and other personages concerned. It was also met at the airport by DPRK Ambassador O Sung-hwan and officials of his embassy and diplomatic envoys of various countries in Nicaragua. A welcome function was held at the airport.

The head of the delegation made public an arrival statement at the airport. Noting that the Korean and Nicaraguan peoples are comrades-in-arms and brothers who forged the firm bonds of friendship when an arduous revolutionary struggle against the dictatorial regime was at its height in Nicaragua, the premier said:

In particular, the significant meeting between Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our people, and Comrade Carlos Fonseca, founder of the Sandinist National Liberation Front of Nicaragua, in Pyongyang was the firm basis for the development of the friendly and cooperative relations between the two peoples. The government and people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea highly appraise the efforts made by the Government of National Reconstruction and people of Nicaragua to develop the country by following a progressive policy after the victory of the revolution, and sincerely wish them new success in the future struggle for the building of a new society.

We take this opportunity to express deep thanks to the Sandinist National Liberation Front, the Government of National Reconstruction and people of Nicaragua for their full support to and solidarity with our people's just cause of the independent and peaceful reunification of the country. I believe that my delegation's visit to Nicaragua will be helpful toward strengthening the friendship and unity between our two peoples and cementing the solidarity of the peoples of Asian and Latin American countries, said Premier Yi Chong-ok.

Further Coverage of Visit

For Managua media and AFP coverage of the visit to Nicaragua of DPRK Prime Minister Yi Chong-ok, see the Central America, Nicaragua, section of the 17 March Latin America DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

KOREA TIMES VIEWS NORTH'S 'AGGRESSIVE POSTURE'

SKI30300 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 13 Mar 82 p 2

[Editorial: "Underground Tunnels"]

[Text] World attention seems to have been drawn again to the scene on the Korean Peninsula, where the communist regime in Pyongyang is far from ready to show any sincerity in response to our repeated calls for resuming dialogue for peaceful unification. Rather, we are gravely concerned about the strengthened war preparedness of North Korea as exposed by the United Nations Command in detailed statistics at the latest Military Armistice Commission meeting, giving a stern warning against the ever-aggressive posture of Pyongyang.

Particularly, it was the first time that the U.N. Command had officially confirmed in a MAC meeting that "there are more than a dozen underground tunnels currently being constructed from the northern side of the Demilitarized Zone into South Korea," aside from the three tunnels dug under the military demarcation line by the North which have been located by the UNC side.

The revelation was made by UNC senior delegate Rear Adm. James G. Storms III, during the 411th Military Armistice Commission meeting Tuesday, which was called by the North Korean side. In the meeting, the U.N. Command retorted to the North Korean claim that "Team Spirit 1982" was a "provocative exercise" designed to start a war in Korea.

Pyongyang's claim can hardly be justified since North Korea has shown no favorable response to an earlier UNC invitation to the communist components of the Military Armistice Commission to observe the annual training exercise being undertaken by combined Korea-U.S. armed forces. The UNC invitation was also extended to the senior members of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, as we recall, so that the genuinely defensive nature of the military exercise could be confirmed.

Instead of making any verbal protest against the South on this matter, the Pyongyang authorities should even now decide to accept the UNC overture for on-the-spot observation of the "Team Spirit" operations. Since the U.N. Command is willing to welcome this, the communist side will obtain a good answer to its question posed at the MAC meeting.

It is crystal clear that the Pyongyang authorities are trying to cover up their flagrant war preparations against the South by renewing their propaganda blasts at the truce meeting, while distorting even the hard facts about the "Team Spirit" war games now going on here.

The UNC senior delegate specifically pointed out that North Korea maintained a military force of 800,000, the sixth largest in the world today, while it ranked 40th in the world in terms of total population, dedicating 20 percent of its gross national product to military expenditures. The peace-loving people in the world community nowadays can hardly overlook these tangible facts about the warlike venture of the Pyongyang regime, which is desperate to beef up its offensive combat capabilities against the republic in the South.

The annual undertaking of the "Team Spirit" maneuvers on the part of the combined Korea-U.S. armed forces is nothing but our efforts to maintain the power balance with the communist regime in the North, in preparation for an eventuality that may take place in this part of Asia. Our defense strategists are immediately concerned about the possibility that Pyongyang may miscalculate the war potentiality of South Korea, as is often pointed out.

The "Team Spirit" maneuvers are construed as showing U.S. readiness to provide prompt and effective assistance to South Korea in the face of a contingency provoked by the North, in accordance with the Korea-U.S. mutual security treaty.

HANGUK ILBO WARNS JAPAN AGAINST TIES WITH NORTH

SK170831 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 17 Mar 82 p 2

[Editorial: "Will Japan Be Duplicitous Again?"]

[Excerpts] Preparations for a ROK-Japan summit are being made, raising the hope that the pending issue between the two countries -- the ROK's request for a Japanese loan amounting to \$6 billion -- will be settled at an early date.

A major Tokyo daily has reported that Prime Minister Suzuki will visit Seoul by May at the latest and settle the loan issue. This, said the newspaper, will be followed by a Japanese Government's decision to allow the entry into Japan of a North Korean fishery delegation led by Hyon Chun-kuk. If so, we cannot but feel betrayed by Japan's demonstration of duplicity.

Last June, Hyon went to Japan leading a delegation, ostensibly to discuss with the Japan-Korea Friendship League matters related to the establishment of a North Korean trade mission in Japan. However, what he did while staying in Japan was to engage in anti-ROK propaganda activities, thus raising suspicion about the intent of his visit.

Now the Japanese Government is said to allow his entry into Japan after resolving the pending issue between the ROK and Japan. What does this imply? We cannot but view this as an indication of Japan showing duplicity diplomatically.

Speaking at a joint Diet session on 25 January this year, Prime Minister Suzuki, on the subject of ROK-Japan relations, stressed mutual understanding and hoped for a smooth settlement of the loan issue. On the same occasion, Foreign Minister Sakuruchi disclosed Japan's intent to promote exchanges with North Korea in the trade, economic and cultural sectors.

When this and other facts are considered, we come to the conclusion that Japanese authorities are, for the time being, interested in double-dealing diplomacy toward both North and South Korea with the latter given more weight, and in the long run, they aim at equidistant diplomacy toward both sides of Korea.

However, such a Japanese attitude, taking advantage of Korea's division to seek profits, deserves criticism for it not only runs counter to international trust but also hinders Korea's peaceful unification and puts in jeopardy the security of Japan and the interests of the international community as well. This is because, violating the spirit of the ROK-Japan treaty, it results in encouraging North Korea's ambitions for communizing the South.

If Japan expects the ROK's connivance at Pyongyang's approach to Japan in return for Japan's loan to the ROK, this is a grave miscalculation. The "North Korean card" of Japan does no service to the national interests of the two countries or to the good-neighbor relations between them.

SIXTH MEETING OF BSPP CENTRAL COMMITTEE HELD

First Day's Agenda

BK111454 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 11 Mar 82

[Text] The first day session of the sixth meeting of the Burma Socialist Program Party [BSPP] Central Committee opened at 0900 today in the central conference hall in the presidential compound on Ahlone Road, Rangoon. BSPP Chairman U Ne Win presided over the meeting while Secretary U Than Hlaing officiated as secretary of the meeting.

The secretary of the meeting first announced the validity of the meeting and declared it open. Later, BSPP General Secretary U Aye Ko read out the report of the party Central Executive Committee and this was followed by U Ba Thaw, secretary of the party Work Inspection Committee, presenting the report of his committee, and U Khin Aye, secretary of the party Discipline Committee, presenting the report of his committee.

Next, Secretary U Thein Ngwe then reported the matter concerning granting of permission for the resignation of Col Thaung Dan and Col Aung Win from the party Discipline Committee. Central Committee members later decided on the matter.

Next, party joint General Secretary Brig Gen Tin U reported the matters concerning the People's Assembly. Central Committee members then cast secret ballots to decide on the matters.

Then, General Secretary U Aye Ko reported on the election of new members to the three vacant posts in the party Discipline Committee. Later, U Zaw Win, chairman of the Elections Supervision Committee, explained about the election procedures. Central Committee members later cast secret ballots and elected Col Khin Maung Win, Col Maung Maung and Naval Capt Maung Maung Khin as members of the party Discipline Committee.

Next, Joint General Secretary Brig Gen Tin U reported on the BSPP's 1982-83 budget, income and normal expenditures, and capital expenditures. After obtaining the approval of Central Committee members, the meeting was briefly recessed.

When the meeting resumed, Secretary U Win Maung reported about the decisions to be taken on the appeals submitted to the Central Committee. The Central Committee later voted on the matter.

Joint General Secretary Brig Gen Tin U explained about the amendments to the BSPP Constitution. Central Committee members later voted on the amendments. Next, amendments to the regulations governing party discipline for party members who are armed forces personnel were reported by Secretary U Htwe Han. Central Committee members voted on the matter.

Next Central Committee members U Hla Soe, U La Ohn Yaw, U Saw Han Thein, Col Khin Maung Win, Daw Aye Myint, U San Lin and U Tommy Han discussed the reports of the Central Executive Committee, the party Work Inspection Committee and the party Discipline Committee.

Today's session of the BSPP Central Committee ended at 1420.

Conclusion 12 Mar

BK120858 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0630 GMT 12 Mar 82

[Text] The sixth meeting of the Burma Socialist Program Party [BSPP] Central Committee began its second day at 0900 this morning in the central conference hall in the presidential compound on Ahlone Road.

The meeting was presided over by BSPP Chairman U Ne Win while Secretary U Thein Ngwe officiated as secretary of the meeting. Soon after the meeting was declared open, Secretary U Than Hlaing submitted amendments to the constitution of the Lanzin Youth Organization, which is being formed. The amendments were discussed and approved by the Central Committee members. Next, Secretary U Win Maung submitted amendments to the constitution of the Peasants Organization which were discussed and approved by the Central Committee members.

Secretary U Htwe Han submitted amendments to the constitution of the Workers Organization which were discussed and approved by the Central Committee members. Next, Secretary U Win Maung announced the decision of the Central Committee members on appeals to the Central Committee. The secretary of the meeting then announced the Central Committee members' decision on the amendments to the Constitution of the BSPP, party discipline procedures and amendments, and procedures and amendments relating to party members of the armed forces.

General Secretary U Aye Ko replied to questions raised by the Central Committee members on the report of the Central Executive Committee. Next, the Central Committee members approved the reports submitted by the Central Executive Committee, the party Inspection Committee and the party Discipline Committee.

The sixth meeting of the Central Committee ended successfully in the morning after the resolutions of the meeting were announced, approved and signed.

SECOND MEETING OF THIRD PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY OPENS

Report on Opening Session

BK151617 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Summary] "The second meeting of the Third People's Assembly of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma opened in the central conference hall in the presidential compound on Ahlone Road, Rangoon, at 1000 today. Present were 468 assemblymen headed by President and State Council Chairman U San Yu. Today's session was chaired by U Pan Myaing, assembly representative from Kayah state's Bawlake constituency, while U Aung Khin Tint, director general of the People's Assembly Office, officiated as secretary of the meeting."

The secretary announced the validity of the meeting and read out the agenda, which was approved by the assembly. As the meeting proceeded new assembly representatives took their oath in the presence of the presiding chairman.

The assembly then elected 14 members of the panel of chairmen from different states and divisions, one of whom -- U Lui Zi of Kayah State's Dimawhso-II constituency -- later took over the seat of the presiding chairman.

"State Council Secretary U Aye Ko then presented the report of the State Council. The presiding chairman later announced that the assembly would discuss the report on 16 March."

This was followed by the assembly expressing regrets over the death of Daw Thein Nyunt, assembly representative from Rangoon Division's Tame-II constituency.

"Next, Prime Minister U Maung Maung Kha presented the report of the Council of Ministers. The presiding chairman then fixed 16 March as the date for assembly representatives to discuss the report."

In the afternoon, U Maung Maung Kyaw Win, chairman of the Council of People's Justices, and U Myint Maung, chairman of the Council of People's Attorneys, presented the reports of their councils. The report of the Council of People's Justices is to be discussed by the assembly on 16 March while the report of the Council of People's Attorneys is to be discussed at a date to be fixed later.

Next, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Planning and Finance Thura U Tun Tin presented the bill concerning the objectives of the Third 4-Year Plan, the 1982 economic plan production and services objectives bill and the report on the 1982-83 financial, economic and social situation. U Nyunt Hlaing, assembly representative of Magwe Division's Magwe-I constituency, seconded the motion to discuss the bills and the report in the assembly. The presiding chairman then announced that a separate date would be fixed later for assembly representatives to discuss the bills and report."

Next, reports of the Council of People's inspectors and the Elections Commission were presented by Council Chairman U San Maung and Commission Secretary U N.D. Zau Tawng, respectively.

Later, the presiding chairman reported that "there were five vacant seats in the People's Assembly and three vacant seats in the people's affairs committees." The matter was put on record.

"The deputy prime minister and minister of planning and finance, Thura U Tun Tin, on behalf of the Council of Ministers, presented the 1982 state appropriations bill. As Assembly Representative U Aung Wir of Mon State's Moulmein-I constituency seconded the motion to discuss the bill in the assembly, the presiding chairman announced that a date would be fixed later for assembly representatives to discuss the bill."

Minister of Agriculture and Forests U Ye Gaung presented the water tax and dam tax bill. The bill is to be discussed on 16 March.

"President U San Yu delivered a speech for about 20 minutes and the opening session of the Third People's Assembly ended at 1440 today."

San Yu's Opening Session Speech

BK160746 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Speech by President U San Yu delivered on the opening day of the second meeting of the third People's Assembly at the central conference room in the presidential compound, Rangoon, on 15 March -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Passage on review of background of current world economic crisis and problems omitted] The current world economic situation is difficult and unstable. It has repercussions for our country to a certain extent. However, our country has sufficient basic necessities like food, clothing and shelter, according to our standards, besides being able to produce sufficient food for domestic consumption we were able to export [food] abroad. Regarding energy, at present, there is considerable production of oil inside the country and various kinds of fuels have been produced and consumed.

Compared to other nonoil producing countries, our country's situation is relatively good. According to surveys carried out by experts, there are oil and natural gas in the central and southern part of our country. Oil and natural gas have been found in areas previously thought not to have reserves when test wells have been sunk. We still have to carry out further tests to determine production capacity. Furthermore, we are in a situation where we are increasingly able to meet social needs such as in education, health, indigenous and foreign medicines. Burma has reached the stage at present when it can meet the needs for food, clothing and shelter. In other words, we are fortunate. However, we should not depend on fortune alone; it is necessary for us to work hard.

At this point, I would like to point out that goods have been produced at reasonable rates to raise the standard of living of the people according to the economic principles being practiced in the country. In producing goods for the people, efforts are being made to improve the quality and quantity of goods at a reasonable cost of production. By doing so, we are striving to stabilize commodity prices and to relieve consumers. Efforts were made to increase the production rate of agricultural goods and to produce industrial goods economically so as to enable prescription of fair prices for the consumers.

Instead of giving priority to profit, the state and cooperative sectors give their priority to consumers' welfare and recovery of capital and expenses in producing goods. We are striving to serve the interests of peasants for their income and consumers for their welfare.

Next, I would like to speak on improving the country's economy, or improving the people's living standard in accordance with the economic principles being practiced in our country. In managing economic enterprises, it is necessary to balance income and expenses and to strive for income to exceed expenses when possible. Insofar as economic enterprises are able to find ways to increase income and minimize expenses, they will be able to expand their investments in economic programs with their available capital resources. While they are still not self-sufficient in their capital resources, they will have to work with loans from abroad. In doing so, it is necessary to select and invest in enterprises which support export expansion; these enterprises also have to be the most economical, beneficial and least time consuming. As far as we can carry out these works, the state economic enterprises, which are owned by the people, will be able to serve the people's interest more. It is also necessary for the state economic enterprises to expand economically viable enterprises based on locally available raw materials. If the economic enterprises are based on imported materials, they face uncertainties in their operations in the long run. Such enterprises should be set up only if it is unavoidable. If the enterprises are set up with external loans, it is necessary that they are economically viable and are able to repay the loans, both the capital and interest, regularly within the prescribed time. If we are unable to pay back the loans, economic and political situation can become unstable as we become more indebted. We must take special care to avoid such situations.

The indigenous working people are to make continued efforts to improve their living standard regularly and steadfastly. Toward this objective, we have laid down short and long-term plans and guidelines and are working accordingly. In accordance with these guidelines, all of the indigenous working people participate in drawing up plan targets. They will gradually be able to achieve their objective of meeting the requirements in food, clothing and shelter if they work jointly and successfully and with the conviction that these plans can be successfully implemented under any given conditions.

Burma is in a situation in which it can work toward steady economic development according to plan. However, in the present world, countries cannot live in isolation. They are connected by trade or other economic ties and are dependent upon one another. According to a Burmese proverb, unpleasantness in the front of the house brings unhappiness to the back of the house. Similarly, economic problems and difficulties confronting developing countries can have direct or indirect economic and political impact on the developed countries. When there are problems and difficulties in the world economy, both the developed and developing countries have to face the negative economic effects. Instead of criticizing and blaming each other, the so-called countries of the north and south -- the rich and poor countries -- should work jointly with genuine good will to find a solution to improve the existing world situation.

The declining world economic situation which I mentioned earlier could further deteriorate into a chaotic state to the level of the economic depression of the 1930's or worse. I conclude here by urging the working people to be prepared for such an eventuality by being certain there will be enough food and an adequate standard of living in our country. [applause]

REPORTS ON SOVIET BASE AT REAM CALLED 'CALUMNIES'

BK170409 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1442 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Phnom Penh, 16 Mar (SPK) -- Recently Beijing radio, VOA and BBC echoed false statements, originating from Thai military sources, that the Soviet Union is expanding the port of Ream (south of Kompong Som Municipality) in order to deploy its strategy in the region and Vietnam is building an airfield at Khao Din near the Thai border.

To present such calumnies is to favor the expansionist policy of Beijing and the ambition of the U.S. imperialists who want to return to Southeast Asia. These statements, which are groundless, are aimed at duping public opinion and diverting attention from the almost daily Thai military provocations against the PRK and at disguising Thailand's conspiring with the Pol Pot criminals and the reactionary bands of Sihanouk and Son Sann.

No one can ignore that it is Thailand which gives refuge to remnants of the Pol Pot army chased out of the country by the Kampuchea people in close coordination with the Vietnamese armed forces. It is Thailand which provides all facilities for the transfer of weapons and foodstuffs from the Chinese, Americans and others to the bloody Pol Pot monsters and other Khmer reactionaries in order to give them the wherewithal to survive and commit new crimes against the Kampuchean people, causing insecurity and tension at the Kampuchean-Thai border. It is Thailand which violates the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the PRK by shelling its territory to cover infiltrations by Pol Pot terrorists and their company. It was Thailand which fired toxic chemical shells against Kampuchean civilians last 11 and 14 February and fired on a Kampuchean boat in the PRK's territorial waters and arrested its crew. It is Bangkok which was chosen as the meeting place for Khmer reactionaries in order to foster subversive acts against the legal government and to undermine the peaceful life of the Kampuchea people. It is Thailand which facilitated the U.S. military's return to the region by permitting them to use the Utaphao airbase again in return for new weapons, among which are Redeye missiles, in order to increase their stocks of arms and threaten the peace of the Indochinese countries.

Thai hostility toward the Kampuchean people did not start today but many centuries ago. At present, enamoured of peace and desirous of maintaining good relations with its neighbors, the Kampuchean people, through the voice of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, expressed their good will to live peacefully with Thailand.

It proposed, among other things, the creation of a demilitarized zone under international control aimed at ensuring security along the Khmer-Thai border. Recently, the conference of foreign ministers of the three Indochinese countries held in Vientiane indicated that Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos are ready to discuss with Thailand all problems of common concern -- directly or indirectly, bilaterally or multilaterally -- without asking for diplomatic recognition.

The will for peace is evident. Far from responding to this, Thai authorities are increasing their calumnies, joining the chorus of the expansionist and imperialist circles. Such a policy is detrimental to the long term interests of the Thai people and other peoples in the region.

Consenting to talks without outside interference is a wisely reasonable policy which conforms to the interests and the aspirations of the 350 million people in Southeast Asia for a region of peace, stability, friendship and cooperation.

KAMPUCHEA DENOUNCES THAI USE OF CHEMICAL SHELLS

BK170203 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0423 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Phnom Penh, 15 Mar (SPK) -- In a commentary, the paper KAMPUCHEA denounced the recent premeditated use of chemical shells by the Thai army at the Kampuchea-Thailand border. According to the PRK Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on 11 and 14 February the Thai army fired many chemical shells into the Phnum Malai area inside Kampuchean territory, causing many victims among the civilian population.

It was a premeditated crime, the paper affirmed, because the Thai authorities had ordered the evacuation of the Thai inhabitants from the adjacent area and had equipped their troops with gas masks. It was a crime committed under the direction of the U.S. imperialist circles which have in vain conducted a slanderous campaign against the Soviet Union and Vietnam, observed the paper which likened the U.S.-Thai scheme to that of a thief crying "Stop thief!"

The Americans, the paper went on, do not need to go farther to look for the culprit. Some 60,000 veteran U.S. soldiers in the war of aggression against Vietnam are now suffering from the consequences of Agent Orange sprayed by tens of thousands of tons in Indochina. To belie U.S. slanders, the paper cited the INDOCHINA ISSUES published in Washington, according to which U.S. scientists have revealed that the proof supplied by the State Department to accuse Vietnam and the Soviet Union turned out to be false and lacking any scientific basis.

According to TASS, on 24 February the Thai minister of public health, Ser Phringphuangkaeo, officially declared that Thai specialists found no evidence of the use by Vietnam of the chemical weapons called yellow rain.

THAI MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN EARLY MARCH REPORTED

BK170248 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1436 GMT 16 Mar 82

["Thai Army Provocations Against Kampuchea" -- SPK headline]

[Text] Phnom Penh, 16 Mar (SPK) -- During the first 10 days of March, 15 Thai aircraft including F-5's, L-19's and UH helicopters overflew Kampuchean territory near the Thai border, especially at Phnum Malai, O Da, Poipet and Pailin, Battambang Province. Some of them penetrated as far as 4 km inside Kampuchea.

During this period, ground artillery from Thailand, namely, 105-mm guns, 120-mm mortars and recoilless guns, pounded Kampuchean territory 61 times, 7 of which were intended to cover infiltrations by Pol Pot terrorists from Thailand. On 9 March alone, an area was bombarded 3 times by 105-mm guns. The Preah Vihear-Siem Reap region suffered 9 bombardments, 4 of which were against Trapeang Kol and the Preah Vihear ruins. It was reported that in western Battambang, 14 Thai aircraft spotted for artillery fire 32 times, especially in Poipet, O Da, Kamrieng and Pailin.

On 6 and 7 March, the Pol Pot terrorists penetrated Kampuchean territory north of O Da under the cover of heavy Thai artillery. Intercepted by the combatants of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Army, the intruders withdrew, leaving behind many corpses. The Koh Kong-Pursat border region suffered artillery fire from Thailand 20 times; Hill 336 alone was the target of eight bombardments. In particular, on 8 March the Kampuchean combatants put out of action 19 Pol Pot men before they could carry out their activities in the areas north, west, southwest and south of Smat Deng. The Kampuchean combatants destroyed 3 weapons, seized 8 others and more than 100 kg of explosives. The survivors took flight to Thailand.

SOVIET FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION VISITS PREY VENG

BK150909 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0400 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] A delegation of the Kampuchean-Soviet friendship association and the Soviet-Kampuchean friendship association led by Comrade Minh Khin, deputy secretary general of the KUFNCD National Council and secretary general of the Kampuchean-Soviet Friendship Association, and Comrade Aleksandr Bursov, first secretary of the Soviet Embassy to the PRK and permanent representative of the Soviet-Kampuchean Friendship Association, left Phnom Penh at 1000 on 11 March for visit to Prey Veng Province.

Upon arrival in Prey Veng, the delegation was warmly welcomed by Comrade Cheam Yiep, chairman of the Prey Veng Provincial People's Revolutionary Committee, and many cadres and personnel from various offices in the province.

At 1900 on the same day, the Prey Veng Provincial People's Revolutionary Committee organized a grand reception to welcome the delegation.

Comrade Cheam Yiep spoke, thanking the delegation for visiting Prey Veng Province. The comrade also expressed profound thanks to the Soviet party and people for providing all kinds of support and assistance -- both in thought and in deed -- to the Kampuchean people in the rehabilitation, construction and defense of their country, which is working to achieve more victories. The comrade expressed the firm conviction that the Soviet Union -- the model brother -- will continue to support and assist Kampuchea in the development of the Kampuchean revolution, especially in Prey Veng Province, which is the birthplace of our forefathers' valiant revolutionary struggle.

In his reply, Comrade Aleksandr Bursov thanked the provincial people's revolutionary committee for the warm welcome accorded the delegation, with its emphasis on the lofty spirit of international solidarity. The comrade highly appraised the development in all fields made by the province within only a short period of time with firm confidence in the wise and correct leadership of the KPRP and with the close fraternal cooperation Vietnam and Laos.

The comrade expressed confidence that with the KPRP's firm adherence to the correct Leninist line, the people's confidence and the assistance of the fraternal and friendly socialist countries, the Kampuchean revolution will certainly win and advance firmly toward socialism.

Later on, films were shown for the entertainment of the people in Prey Veng Province. The films were on the lively activities of the 26th CPSU Congress, which are of profound significance, and on the valiant struggle and wise leadership of the hero Lenin, who surmounted all obstacles and dangers and brought brilliant victory to the Soviet people throughout the country.

VIETNAMESE ART TROUPE ENDS VISIT 11 MAR

BK140748 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0358 GMT 12 Mar 82

[Text] Phnom Penh, 12 Mar (SPK) -- The Vietnamese art troupe led by Nguyen Dang Tu, chief of the northern region's traditional arts service, left Phnom Penh on Thursday, 11 March, at the end of its 3-week tour of Kampuchea.

During its stay in Kampuchea, the troupe presented art performances in Phnom Penh and in Kompong Cham, Prey Veng and Svay Rieng Provinces. The artists were received by Him Chhem, assistant to the minister of information, press and culture. They also visited the former royal palace, the national museum, the fine arts school, the Tuol Sleng school-prison and the mass graves in Kompong Cham Province. Chheng Phon, minister of information, press and culture, and other cadres greeted the troupe at its departure.

HENG TEAV HEADS TRADE UNION DELEGATION TO MOSCOW

BK140744 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1435 GMT 11 Mar 82

[Text] Phnom Penh, 11 Mar (SPK) -- At the invitation of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions of the USSR, a delegation of the Kampuchean Federation of Trade Unions led by its vice chairman Heng Teav, member of the Council of State, left Phnom Penh for Moscow on Thursday, 11 March. It will attend the 17th Congress of the USSR trade unions to be held from 16 to 20 March.

The delegation was seen off by Duong Savang, member of the Standing Committee of the Kampuchean Federation of Trade Unions, and other cadres.

COVERAGE OF POLISH TRADE DELEGATION'S VISIT

Trade Agreement Signed 13 Mar

BK140746 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1442 GMT 13 Mar 82

[Text] Phnom Penh, 13 Mar (SPK) -- Poun Ponloe, Kampuchean deputy minister of trade, and Sergiusz Mikulicz, Polish ambassador to Kampuchea and head of a visiting Polish trade delegation, signed today in Phnom Penh a protocol on trade exchanges in 1982 and a trade agreement between the PRK Government and the Polish People's Republic. Tang Saroem, minister of trade, attended the signing ceremony.

Chea Soth Receives Delegation

BK160722 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1429 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] Phnom Penh, 15 Mar (SPK) -- Today, Chea Soth, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of planning, received in Phnom Penh the Polish trade delegation led by Sergiusz Mikulicz, ambassador to Kampuchea. Also present were Poun Ponloe, Kampuchean vice minister of trade, and other cadres.

On that occasion, Chea Soth emphasized friendly ties and cooperation which unite the PRK and the Polish People's Republic. The Kampuchean party, government and people, he affirmed, will always stand side by side with the Polish people in their struggle against common enemies -- the U.S. imperialists and other reactionaries.

On his part, Sergiusz Mikulicz expressed his deep thanks to Kampuchea and stressed the friendly ties and cooperation in all fields between Kampuchea and Poland.

Departs Phnom Penh 15 Mar

BK160753 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0357 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Phnom Penh, 16 Mar (SPK) -- On Monday (15 March), the Polish trade delegation left Phnom Penh after its 8-day visit to Kampuchea. During its stay in Kampuchea, it was received in audience by Chea Soth, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of planning. A protocol on commercial exchanges in 1982 and a trade accord between the Government of the PRK and the Polish People's Republic were signed at the end of this visit.

The delegation visited the former royal palace, the national museum, the Tuol Sleng high-school prison, mass graves at Cheungek and latex factory at kilometer 6 -- a northern suburb of Phnom Penh. It was seen off at its departure by Poun Ponloe, vice minister of trade; and other cadres.

HENG SAMRIN MESSAGE GREETES LIBYAN ANNIVERSARY

BK110237 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1430 GMT 10 Mar 82

[Text] Phnom Penh, 10 Mar (SPK) -- Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State, has sent a message of warm congratulations to Col Mu'ammad al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great 1 September revolution, on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the founding of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah.

The message of Chairman Heng Samrin said, notably: We are certain that, under your clear-sighted leadership, the valiant Libyan people will record more brilliant successes in the struggle against the provocations by the imperialists and other reactionary forces and for the defense of national independence.

We wish you new successes in accomplishing your noble revolutionary task. May the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two peoples be developed and strengthened further in all domains.

CHAN SI CONGRATULATES GRENADA ON ANNIVERSARY

BK110233 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1433 GMT 10 Mar 82

[Text] Phnom Penh, 10 Mar (SPK) -- In the name of the PRK Government and people, Chan Si, chairman of the Council of Ministers, has warmly congratulated Maurice Bishop, prime minister of the Republic of Grenada, on the occasion of the third anniversary of the people's democratic revolution of Grenada.

The message said, notably: We are convinced that, under the correct leadership of the Grenadian Revolutionary Government, the valiant Grenadian people will record even greater successes in carrying out the revolutionary task of defending and consolidating national independence and promoting the happiness and well-being of the Grenadian.

It is our wish that the relations of friendship and militant solidarity between our two countries be strengthened and developed further in the interests of our two peoples.

AGRICULTURAL REPORTAGE FOR 8-14 MARCH PERIOD

BK150429 [Editorial Report] Kampuchean media have reported the following agricultural developments in the reporting period 8-14 March:

Kompong Cham: Phnom Penh Domestic Service at 0400 GMT on 8 March reported that from 26 December 1981 to 4 March 1982, the people of Memot District, Kompong Cham Province, sold more than 7,000 tons of paddy to the state. Meanwhile, 40 hectares of dry-season rice were transplanted. Phnom Penh radio at 0400 GMT on 11 March added that by the end of the cool season, peasants in Kang Meas District of the same province had harvested 50 percent of the dry-season rice, with a yield of 4,200 tons of paddy. The district people raise more than 17,000 oxen, 300 buffalo, 76 horses, 2 elephants, 6,000 pigs, 50,000 chickens, 11,000 ducks and 66 geese. They have also grown 1,000 hectares of corn. Phnom Penh SPK in French at 0416 GMT on 11 March noted that by early March, the peasants of Ponhea Krek District has sold 2,880 tons of paddy to the state. The rice selling target is 4,000 tons.

Kompong Chhnang: SPK at 0404 GMT on 8 March reported that people in Kompong Chhnang Province have sold 4,000 tons of paddy to the state. Radio Phnom Penh at 0400 GMT on 10 March reported that after harvesting and storing rainy-season rice, peasants in Baribo District, Kompong Chhnang Province, are striving to grow dry-season rice, particularly along the bank of Tonle Sap Lake. However, since Tonle Sap Lake water subsides too slow, by the end of February, peasants had just transplanted 5 hectares of rice and planted 4 tons of seed. The target for dry-season rice is 650 hectares. Peasants have dug three ditches for channeling irrigation water into ricefields.

These ditches total 891 meters. The peasants have prepared 12 waterpumps and 52 scoops for production purposes. The same service at 0400 GMT on 11 March added that in Rolea P'ier District of the same province, by early February, 600 hectares of rice had been sown, 65 hectares of dry-season rice transplanted and 8 hectares of floating rice planted. In addition, 300 hectares of dry-season crops such as cassava, potato, corn, mung bean and 28 hectares of industrial crops were grown.

Battambang: SPK at 0404 GMT on 12 March noted that, according to a report presented at a recent provincial meeting, despite unfavorable weather last year, Battambang Province cultivated 260,000 hectares of rainy-season rice and 10,570 hectares of subsidiary crops. Progress was also made in the planting of jute, sugarcane, mulberry and orange. At present, the report said, Battambang has 110,000 head of cattle -- an increase of 5,300 over last year -- 29,550 pigs and 315,900 fowl. During the main rainy season planting this year Battambang Province plans to put 306,000 hectares into production, including 281,500 hectares of rice, 1,800 hectares of subsidiary crops, 1,000 hectares of jute, 200 hectares of cotton and 1,000 hectares of sugarcane. Phnom Penh SPK at 0402 GMT on 10 March reported that 15 rice purchasing centers have been opened in Mongkolbore District, Battambang Province, and that 8,000 tons of paddy have been purchased from the people.

Kompong Thom: By the end of February, 11,307.5 tons of paddy had been sold to the state, according to Phnom Penh radio at 1200 GMT on 12 March, which added that by mid-February, 366 hectares of dry-season rice had been transplanted and 2,700 hectares of flood-receding rice sown, out of 4,000 hectares planned. In Santuk District, by 22 February, 280 hectares of rice had been transplanted, the radio said at 0400 on 9 March, noting that there are more than 7,800 oxen and buffalo in the district.

Kratie: SPK at 1430 GMT on 12 March noted that the Kratie provincial trade service has bought more than 1,500 tons of paddy of the 5,000-ton target. Last year, Kratie Province purchased 4,000 tons.

Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchy: Phnom Penh radio at 0400 GMT on 13 March reported that by the beginning of March, peasants in the province had sold over 5,000 tons of paddy to the state. With this amount sold, peasants have fulfilled the plan, but they are continuing to sell more paddy to the state.

PHNOM PENH FINANCIAL REVIEW MEETING ENDS 10 MAR

BK120939 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 11 Mar 82

[Text] After 3 days of work, the meeting to sum up the results of the 1981 financial operations closed with success on the afternoon of 10 March. On this occasion, Finance Minister Chan Phin read out a report summing up the work of the 1981 financial operations meeting. He said that successes achieved in this field can be attributed to the fact that we have a correct line defined by the party and state, to the full support of the central, provincial and municipal units concerned and to the wholehearted assistance, support and cooperation of Vietnamese experts.

The meeting then presented citation certificates and awards to a number of provinces and cities which performed well in financial operations in 1981.

Comrades representing Battambang and Kratie Provinces, on behalf of provinces from the plains and densely forested regions, took the floor to pledge to the meeting that they will spare no efforts in improving financial operations.

Comrade Chea Soth, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of planning, made a closing speech to the 1981 financial review meeting. He stressed that in 1981 the comrades of the central and local financial and accountancy units made important progress and brilliant achievements. I am confident that you will continue to achieve successes in all financial operations, first of all by seeing to it that all tasks entrusted to you by the party and state in this field are well implemented, he stressed.

PLANNING MINISTRY SETS ECONOMIC GOALS FOR 1982

BK170633 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1452 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Phnom Penh, 16 Mar (SPK) - On Sunday (14 March), the Ministry of Planning ended its 4-day meeting in Phnom Penh after adopting the principal economic goals for the year.

This year, Kampuchea should grow 1,600,000 hectares of rice during the two seasons, 120,000 hectares of corn, 30,000 hectares of short-term industrial crops including 8,500 hectares of tobacco, 6,000 hectares of soybeans, 5,000 hectares of peanuts, 2,500 hectares of sugarcane, 15,000 hectares of jute and 1,000 hectares of cotton.

Draught forces will have 967,000 oxen and 406,000 buffalo -- an increase of 4.5 percent in oxen and 3 percent for buffalo.

Fishermen should catch 60,000 tons of fish and 4,000 tons of this will be dried or smoked or transformed into prahoc (kind of cheese [as received]).

The industrial sector plans to attain 114 million kilowatt-hours, restore 1,000 weaving looms, produce 3,500,000 meters of cloth and 1,000 tons of nets. The transport service plans to convey 385,000 tons of goods.

The vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and Minister of Planning, Chea Soth, who presided at this meeting, urged all to do their best in order to fulfill the tasks set by the party. The primary task of 1982, stressed the vice chairman, is the intensification of agricultural production.

MEAS KROCH ADDRESSES CADRE TRAINING COURSE

BK160904 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Excerpts] On the afternoon of 3 March 1982, the infantry school organized a ceremony to close the political training course for the second group of (?middle and high-level) cadres. There were (?141) trainees who were cadres for (?brigades), (?divisions), (?provinces), regiments, battalions and representatives of the three departments of the Defense Ministry.

Present on that occasion were Comrade Meas Kroch, chief of the General Political Department; Comrade Di Phin, chief of the General Logistics Department; Comrade Tea Banh, deputy of the General Staff; Comrade Cheng Than, deputy chief of the general Logistics Department; and Comrade Keo Tan, Director of the infantry school.

Addressing the gathering, Comrade Meas Kroch advised all the trainees to strengthen the militant solidarity between the people and the three components of the armed forces of the (?three countries) -- Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos -- and particularly with Vietnam, which is (?Kampuchea's close friend). Concerning the tasks to be fulfilled in the future, the comrade recommend to all trainees to make every effort become model cadres in leading and commanding units in (?construction and in political and defense works). They should educate and lead cadres and combatants in their units in order to fulfill the tasks entrusted to them by the fourth party congress. The ceremony ended with the (?shouting of interesting slogans).

KONG SAMOK SPEAKS AT AGRICULTURAL MEETING

BK170322 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] At the former royal palace at 0800 on 16 March, the Agriculture Ministry opened the third national agricultural meeting to assess the outcome of the 1981 rainy-season and 1981-1982 dry-season agricultural production and to examine the plans and targets for the 1982 production.

Comrade Kong Samol, minister of agriculture, made an opening speech and read a report on the 1981 agricultural production. The comrade noted the special points of the production

situation and highly appraised the satisfactory outcome achieved in the 1981 agricultural production by comparing it to that made in 1980.

The comrade stressed: This success in agricultural production was attributable to the wise leadership of the KPRP together with the high revolutionary spirit of the people throughout the country who, having had firm confidence in the party leadership, strove to overcome all obstacles, difficulties and natural disasters. This success was particularly brought about by the all-round assistance of the fraternal and friendly socialist countries.

The comrade also referred to the targets, objectives and measures for 1982 agricultural production which were based on the resolutions of the fourth party congress stressing agricultural production as the highest priority task for the rehabilitation of the national economy. The comrade stressed various important measures to be implemented in the coming years in order to score more successes in accordance with the party's objectives and goals.

In conclusion, the comrade expressed firm confidence in the party leadership, the people's consciousness and the spirit of proletarian internationalism of the fraternal and friendly socialist countries, particularly the cooperation and assistance of the Indochinese countries -- Vietnam and Laos -- and the Soviet Union, which will enable Kampuchea to achieve brilliant success in its cause of rehabilitating the economy. The comrade also pledged to make every effort in order to seize great achievements in the 1982-1983 production. The meeting ended temporarily at 1100 in a joyous atmosphere.

YOS POR, FRONT DELEGATION VISIT KAMPOT PROVINCE

BK170357 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] A delegation of the KUFNCD National Council led by its Secretary General Comrade Yos Por recently visited our people in Kampot Province.

During its 7-day stay in the province, the delegation called on the people at Phnum Leav, Ang Kaol and Damnak Kantuot communes of Chhuk District and attended a meeting to sum up annual achievements in Kompong Trach District. The delegation ended its visit successfully and returned safely to Phnom Penh on 15 March.

HOR NAM HONG ATTENDS GDR ARMY DAY PARTY

BK170737 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0428 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] Phnom Penh, 17 Mar (SPK) -- On Tuesday the military attache of the GDR Embassy, Lieutenant Colonel Woite, held a cocktail party in Phnom Penh on the occasion of the anniversary of the National People's Army of the GDR. Hor Nam Hong, deputy minister of foreign affairs; Tea Banh, deputy chief of the General Staff; and Di Phin, chief of the General Logistics Department of the KPRAF, attended the party. The presence of the diplomatic corps accredited in Kampuchea was noted on that occasion.

Lieutenant Colonel Woite spoke on efforts of the peoples' armed forces of the GDR in the Warsaw Pact in the struggle for peace to cope with the threats of the U.S. imperialists, NATO bloc and other reactionaries.

TANG SAROEM ADDRESSES PARTY TRAINEE COURSE

BK170805 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1230 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] At 0740 on 15 March the Ministry of Trade held a ceremony to open a second course on the resolutions of the fourth party congress for 174 trainees. The ceremony was presided over by Comrade Tang Saroem, minister of trade.

Comrade Tang Saroem made a speech concerning this course to study the resolutions of the fourth party congress. He stressed: Cadres are a bridge for connecting the party line with the people and bringing the people toward happiness. Therefore, all cadres must temper and imbue themselves with revolutionary views and stand and grasp the party line in order to defend and build our country in a direction of advance toward socialism.

The comrade also exhorted all trainees to study hard in order to successfully absorb the significance of this course.

In conclusion, representatives of the trainees of both sexes pledged to study hard in order to apply their knowledge from this course in practical deeds in their respective localities. The ceremony ended at 0900 in a joyous and cordial atmosphere.

KYODO: POL POT SUFFERING FROM HYPERTENSION

OW170853 Tokyo KYODO in English 0847 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] Bangkok, March 17, KYODO -- Kampuchean guerrilla leader Pol Pot has been suffering seriously from malaria and hypertension these two months and his deputy, Chhit Choeun, is virtually leading guerrilla activities against Vietnam, according to Thai military sources. Pol Pot, commander in chief of the Kampuchean Front for National Construction (KFNC), is receiving medical care in Kampuchea near the Thai border, the sources said.

Chhit Choeun, alias Ta Mok, chief of the front's general staff, is acting for the ailing Pol Pot, they said, suggesting the Democratic Kampuchean Government leadership may soon be reshuffled, leaving some effects on its anti-Vietnam guerrilla operations.

Pol Pot, not seen publicly after his appearance before Japanese reporters in Kampuchean territory in December 1979, 11 months after the Vietnamese troops invaded Kampuchea, has been rumored to be suffering from overweight caused by arthritis medicine he took. Democratic Kampuchean sources in Bangkok denied press reports that Pol Pot was hospitalized in the Thai capital.

SON SANN SAID TO WANT IDEAS FROM KHMER ROUGE

BK150304 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 15 Mar 82 p 1

[By Jacques Bekaert]

[Text] Paris -- Former Kampuchean Premier Son Sann has called on the Khmer Rouge "to come up with new ideas" to break the stalemate over the efforts to form anti-Vietnamese coalition among the three major Kampuchean resistance forces. He told the NATION in a recent interview here that since the Khmer Rouge are the ones who rejected the last proposal to form the coalition, it is now their responsibility to offer a breakthrough. "It is time for them to show if they are real patriots, as they claim, or if they are only interested in regaining power for themselves -- as their behaviour seems to indicate, he said.

Son Sann, the president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), emphasized that any coalition with the Khmer Rouge would only last "the time needed to liberate the country from foreign troops." "It should be very clear that any alliance with the Khmer Rouge is limited to that crucial goal," he added.

While Son Sann was talking to the NATION, Khmer Rouge Premier Khieu Samphan and former Kampuchean head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk met in Beijing and basically agreed to the formation of a loose coalition. "I'm ready to go to Beijing anytime. I'm willing to meet Prince Sihanouk and Mr Khieu Samphan separately, and if they come up with reasonable proposals another Khmer summit could be organized in China or in any other country," the 72-year-old leader of KPNLF said.

But Son Sann never made it to Beijing when he was needed most there. Apparently angered by his "dilly-dallying," China recently began cutting off aid to his resistance group which operates on the Thai-Kampuchean border, according to an authoritative diplomatic source.

During the past three months, Son Sann has been travelling extensively in North America and Western Europe, drumming up support for his resistance group. But so far no countries have made public their intention to supply military aid to Son Sann. West Germany was the first country to have announced that it was giving non-military aid to KPNLF.

However, the aging KPNLF leader expressed satisfaction at the support he had received from several countries he visited. "We need it very badly. We need food and medicine," he said. He claimed that more than 140,000 people live in the area controlled by his resistance force. "We also need weapons to protect our people. We are worried that one day the Vietnamese might decide to attack our camps and our villages," he said.

Like Sihanouk, Son Sann said he believes in a political solution to the Kampuchean problem. "It is very important to keep the pressure on Vietnam and important not to give the impression that we are giving up to the fait accompli of the military occupation," he said.

According to Son Sann, the military strength of the KPNLF is now 9,000 armed men. He said KPNLF training schools have prepared enough cadres and officers to lead 20,000 men.

If the efforts to bring together the three main resistance groups failed Son Sann indicated that he is ready to try "a nationalist alternative" which would include Prince Sihanouk. "Prince Sihanouk has always been very clear in expressing his support for me and said many times he would back me as a prime minister while I support him as chief of state," he said. Differences remain though since the KPNLF has so far been reluctant to recognize Sihanouk's FUNCINPEC [National United front for an Independent Neutral Peaceful and Cooperative Kampuchea] as a partner.

AFP: PARIS KHMER GROUP SAYS SRV USING TOXIC GAS

NC161841 Paris AFP in English 1811 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Paris, 16 Mar (AFP) -- The National Front for the Liberation of the Khmer People charged here today that several Cambodian villages had recently been bombed with "projectiles containing poison gas and yellow substances." A communique published here by the organization, which is headed by former Cambodian Premier Son Sann, specified that as a result of these bombings, which took place last March 7 and 11, "numerous civilians suffered from vertigo, nausea, diarrhea, vomiting and skin irritations."

Mr Sann's organization is involved in insurgency against the Vietnamese-supported Heng Samrin government in Phnom Penh. The communique declared that "this time Vietnam will not be able to deny the use of chemical arms by its forces." The organization said it had invited several international committees to investigate its charges.

INTERVIEW WITH FOREIGN MINISTER NGUYEN CO THACH

PM111521 Amsterdam DE VOLKSKRANT in Dutch 6 Mar 82 Saturday Supplement p 9

[Jose Van der Sman Hanoi interview with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach: "I Am the Only Foreign Minister Who Has To Borrow a Suit From His Government" -- interview granted on the third day of the Tet festival]

[Text] In his ministry opposite the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum in Hanoi Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach was already waiting for me with a cup of tea. The interview took place on the third day of the Tet festival, the Vietnamese New Year which is traditionally celebrated in the bosom of the family. He pleasantly dismissed my apologies that I was making him work on this day. For, Mr Co Thach said, information is important. Too many people have too long been the victims of lies and propaganda; the truth cannot be told often enough. And friendship is also important. The Netherlands has done much for Vietnam and this is greatly appreciated. Therefore Mr Co Thach has all the time in the world.

[Question] Mr Co Thach, let us get to the heart of the matter immediately. Vietnam needs all its resources for its reconstruction. Why then does it maintain such an enormous army?

[Answer] We have had to wage war for 35 years. Not because it was our hobby, but because we were condemned to do so. First came the French, who said that they wanted to halt communism in Asia. Then came Johnson, who claimed that an end had to be made to the Russian and Chinese expansion in the region. And now it is the Chinese, who justify their aggression against Vietnam with the argument that Soviet expansionism must be countered. We have been fighting for independence and freedom. But there is no independence and freedom if you cannot sleep peacefully at night. The Americans want us to bleed to death. The Chinese have given warnings of a second invasion. A sword of Damocles is hanging over our head. China has 3.5 million soldiers. It would be able to deploy 1 million men against us without any problems. And you ask why we have such a large army? Well, it is because our enemies are many.

Do you understand how high a price we have had to pay for our independence? It is something every Vietnamese knows. Perhaps you cannot know. You have not been involved in a war, not seen destruction. Your generation is protesting against the neutron bomb and the like, but for you these are theoretical questions. We have waged three wars, and peace is more important than anything else.

[Question] Thus you have a large army to be able to make a stand against the Chinese. But why should China want to behave so aggressively toward Vietnam? Once China was an important ally....

[Answer] That is a good question. To be able to judge your friends you must look at how they treat their own family and friends. Look at the Great Cultural Revolution in China. It had nothing to do with culture. It was a destructive civil war, a bloodbath. They behaved like barbarians in their own country. Look at the power changeovers in Beijing. Deng Xiaoping climbed to the top, was reviled and then climbed again. That could only happen in China. Look at relations with the Soviet Union. Once it was China's greatest ally, now it is its greatest enemy.

I tell you, the Chinese change their friends and enemies as often as they change their underwear. In Bangkok the other day I gave the Thai foreign minister a good piece of advice. He told me that China would intervene if ever a Vietnamese soldier set foot on Thai soil. Apart from telling him that that would never happen and that it has never happened in the past, I answered as follows: You must, of course, decide yourselves which friends you choose, but do not be so stupid about history. The Chinese are totally unreliable as allies; they are traitors.

Once our relations with China were better than relations between Bangkok and Beijing are now, and nevertheless they betrayed us during the war with the Americans. After Nixon's visit to China Mao Zedong told Prime Minister Pham Van Dong that his broom was not long enough to sweep Taiwan clean and that ours was not long enough to get the Americans out of South Vietnam. He wanted to halt reunification and force us to recognize the puppet regime in the south. He had sacrificed Vietnam for the sake of ties with the United States. When the Americans began to bomb Hanoi our defense pact with China suddenly turned out to be worthless. No Chinese antiaircraft defense came. Mao had simply torn up our agreement.

[Question] But Mao is dead and a different regime is in power....

[Answer] Nothing has changed. The Chinese are the most stupid people in the world. They only work from their own interests. They consider that it is in their interest that chaos is created in the world. Everywhere they try to sow unrest, everywhere they interfere. There is a Chinese saying: Sit quietly on the mountain and watch the tigers fight each other in the valley. They set NATO against the Warsaw Pact, the ASEAN nations against Vietnam, the United States against the Soviet Union. Their basic philosophy is that as much chaos as possible should be created in the world so that they themselves will have the chance to catch up in the economic and military fields and become the greatest power in the world. It is incredible that the Americans could be so naive about China as to help it modernize its army.

[Question] Your view of the future is fairly pessimistic. Will there never be a time when it will be necessary to talk with the Chinese?

[Answer] Certainly. But this accords well with my pessimism. We have high hopes that we will be able to live in peace with China sooner or later. This continuing state of war is not in their interest either. It also causes suffering for them in the long term. If things continue as they are at present not much can come of their four modernizations plan. This is something that they will have to realize themselves.

[Question] The fact remains that the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea worries them enormously. Should this problem not be removed first?

[Answer] The Chinese are forever saying that they intend to punish us because of the invasion of Kampuchea. But they do not add that this is the third time in 35 years that Vietnamese troops have been in Kampuchea. The first two times we simply left, and we will do so again this time. I guarantee that all Vietnamese troops will be withdrawn from Kampuchea.

[Question] All troops?

[Answer] I repeat -- all troops.

[Question] The question is: When?

[Answer] But, Madam, the date has already been fixed. We will withdraw our troops from Kampuchea the day after the Chinese threat ceases to exist.

[Question] You mean if the Chinese-supported Khmer Rouge resistance is eliminated?

[Answer] China must stop threatening us. Then we would withdraw immediately. In this much we are even less ambiguous than the Americans are toward Europe. You have U.S. soldiers in Europe. Have they ever told you when they will withdraw them? Really, sometimes the West's hypocrisy is incredible. If Vietnam is the country concerned, different yardsticks are always used.

[Question] In Europe it is a question of democracy and thus of a choice. The Europeans have the feeling that they have some say in the U.S. presence. But how are things with the Kampucheans?

[Answer] Indeed? We have a different experience of the Americans. But there have been elections in Kampuchea. You must know that?

[Question] And so the Kampucheans have been able to choose?

[Answer] You are leaving for Kampuchea tomorrow. Just ask them if they want Pol Pot back.... Anyway, what is democracy? Is there only one definition if it? Every Vietnamese farmer here has a rifle to get out of his closet if the Chinese invade again. He could use that rifle to overthrow the present government, but that does not happen. That is also democracy.

[Question] Let us stay with Kampuchea then. Explain again the reasons for the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea.

[Answer] First, Pol Pot wanted to invade Vietnam; there was a border war which lasted for years. Now you will naturally ask how a little country like Kampuchea could take it into its head to want to conquer a large country like Vietnam. Well, they knew that they were assured of Chinese support. Moreover, Pol Pot was mad, that much at least should be clear to you. He was murdering his own people. When the people rebelled against this we supported them. That is our right, a right that is even enshrined in the UN Charter. We have the right to help people to eliminate such criminals. In addition we also had the right to defend ourselves. Did we therefore have to march through to Phnom Penh? Indeed we did, just as the Americans, British and Russians had to penetrate to Berlin to eliminate Hitler, and they are still there.

But there is something else I would like to explain about Kampuchea. The despotic rulers of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea have always seen these three countries as an indivisible whole. Our fates have always been linked, because we formed one and the same battlefield. We waged a common war against a common enemy on a common battlefield. In the past there was solidarity and cooperation. This solidarity was of crucial importance in our struggle for independence. It cannot be broken off just like that. Fate has welded Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea together.

[Question] Up to now Vietnam has paid something of a high price for this solidarity. Has this price not perhaps been too high, bearing in mind the wretched situation in which the country finds itself?

[Answer] It is a very high price. For instance, we cannot now save our energies for our own reconstruction, and you have seen yourself how poor we are. This suit that I am wearing specially for you is not my own, for I could not afford one. I am the only foreign minister in the world who has to borrow a suit from his government. But you are referring to the policy of bleeding to death. I can say this. Things are bad for us, very bad. But things are better than they were. And I mean this literally. The farmers in Vietnam may be poor, but not as poor as they were. Before they had nothing, at most a reed hut. Now they often have a stone house and a bicycle and a piece of land. And when you ask a farmer what he will do if the Chinese come, he answers that he will fight. Do you understand? He will fight to defend his stone house and his bicycle and his piece of land.

[Question] And in the south?

[Answer] In the south, too.

[Question] And in Ho Chi Minh City?

[Answer] Ah, that is another question. Our reform measures after liberation led to a fall in the living standards of many of the inhabitants of Ho Chi Minh City. I am not talking about the workers here, for the same is true of them as is true of the farmers. I am talking about the middle class and the intellectuals. They chose to leave the country. Alas, I tell you, how this hurts Vietnam. The problem of the boat people was very painful for us in particular because we lost our intelligentsia and our fishing fleet.

But we let them go because they could not be held back, unless through the use of terror. This goes hand in hand with corruption; that is unavoidable in Vietnam. But there is one difference between us and the countries around us -- we have no corruption at the top of the state apparatus. And this, we hope, will make it possible to master this problem in the long term. We have agreed to the legal departure of around 1,000 Vietnamese every month. Corruption, bureaucracy and the like are disrupting this program, but our intentions are good.

[Question] The Netherlands Government is one of those governments which doubt this. I could give you the names of people who have already been waiting for years to be reunited with their families in The Netherlands but who cannot get an exit visa.

[Answer] Yes, that is possible. I have repeatedly explained to your government that there are four criteria under which people are not allowed to leave -- when they are in the army, if they have a criminal record, if they possibly know state secrets or if they have what is for us an important profession, such as medicine or education.

[Question] That is a broad spectrum....

[Answer] We cannot take any risks and we need no further blood-letting. But we do what we can, for you must not think that we are totally insensitive to the humanitarian aspects of these questions.

[Question] Let us return to the price Vietnam has paid, especially in the international political arena. The initial good will which your country enjoyed has since been lost....

[Answer] What do you mean by good will? Everyone says that we are now isolated, but just take a look at the past. As a boy I had to bow to the French and could get a kick from the French police. Now the same French police must escort me when I ride in a limousine through Paris. As a boy I had to learn that my forefathers were French and that Vietnam had not existed. Now we have a flag and a seat in the United Nations. During the war with the Americans, they -- the criminals -- had a seat in the United Nations and we -- the victims -- were not admitted. I can now stand up in New York and throw down the Americans' crimes against humanity at their feet. Madam, we now have respect, a name, a passport and a place on the map!

The world has learned to respect Vietnam, even though we are poor and have great difficulties. But the difficulties are small in comparison with the past and they will be overcome. We can see the light at the end of the tunnel. Difficulties have never been a reason for Vietnam to bow its head. Ho Chi Minh taught us that if you intend to win then you will have enough wisdom to reach that goal.

But if you want to lose there are many ways of taking to your heels. It is not in our nature to choose to take to our heels, that must have become obvious over the last 20 years.

The Americans never understood that and they still do not understand it. They still do not understand why they lost the war. In New York journalists have asked me if I was not impressed by the riches and power of the United States? And I answered: U.S. riches are dazzling. Rockefeller earns more than our whole country. But your poverty is also dazzling; in the Bronx, in Harlem, who is talking about power here? I can only see U.S. weakness.

[Question] Strong words, Mr Co Thach, but let us return to the other great powers in this world. Has Vietnam not been so busy keeping the tiger from its front door that it has not noticed the bear which is slipping in by the backdoor?

[Answer] Aha, we are talking about the polar bear. I understand what you want to get at. It is claimed that we have always succeeded in keeping a balance in our relations with the major powers, but that we have now lost it. Rubbish. The principle of balance has never been a dogma in our foreign policy.

It would mean that we consciously leaned on others, and that has never been our intention. Our independence is based on our own energies. We won the war ourselves, and we are now striving to solve our problems ourselves. For instance, by motivating people to produce more food, so that we need to knock at other people's doors as little as possible.

[Question] But we were talking about the polar bear.... You won't deny that you need him?

[Answer] Certainly we need help; history has taught us that the Russians are our most loyal friends. They have never left us in the lurch, not even when Nixon visited Moscow and tried to come to some sort of arrangement. You can read about that in the Kissinger memoirs. But that is not to say that we would simply sell our independence which we have had to pay for in blood. Our friends know this very well. We are economically dependent on them, but we will change that. Moreover, we will pay back every ruble.

[Question] But how will you pay back the Russians? That is the question. As a socialist you must have learned that economic dependence can degenerate only too quickly into political dependence.

[Answer] Yes, yes, I always learned my lessons well.

[Question] How are things going with the Soviet Union's request for its own military base in Vietnam?

[Answer] The Russian Navy has harbor rights in Vietnam. The Americans and Chinese are screaming blue murder about this. But do they have a monopoly over land and sea in East Asia? They have only misused their rights to bomb and blockade us. The same cannot be said of the Russians. But up to now we have not given the Russians permission for a base in Vietnam.

[Question] Up to now?

[Answer] Not up to now, but that does not mean that it will never happen.

[Question] When would Vietnam give its permission then?

[Answer] If the Chinese persist in their attempts to destroy our country, we would perhaps in the long run have no other choice.

[Question] Mr Co Thach, many thanks for this interview.

[Answer] Madam, it was an honor. When you are back in The Netherlands and have anything more to ask, then you must write to me. Correct information is the only guarantee of peace in this world.

[Question] There are people who say that Vietnam did not win the war with weapons but with words...

[Answer] No, Vietnam won the war because it had patience. The Americans think in terms of 2 years, the Europeans of 10 years, but we think in terms of 30 years.

[Question] And China?

[Answer] China? Sometimes I ask myself whether the Chinese really think at all.

COMMUNIQUE WELCOMES EMULATION MOVEMENT RESULTS

OW151056 Hanoi VNA in English 0711 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, March 15 -- The Central Emulation Board, in a communique issued here today, warmly welcomed the initial results of the patriotic socialist emulation movement launched throughout the country last year in honour of the Fifth Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

The communique reviews new achievements in all branches of the economy, with particular stress on agriculture. It says that so far almost 1.6 million hectares have been put under rice, the acreage under soya-bean is 2.5 times as large as this time last year, millions more of trees have been planted during the recent Spring Arbor Festival and more than 28,000 have left the delta areas to take part in building new economic zones. The aquatic-product industry, along with stepping up fisheries, in the first two months of this year achieved 90 percent of the export plan for the first quarter.

Industrial branches have continuously broadened their initiative in production and business transactions, under the slogan: "Produce more and better even with as much and less equipment and materials than before". As a result, the quantity of certain consumer goods produced in this quarter increases over the same period of last year, the output of electricity is up to target, the coal mines maintain the rate of extraction of the dry season. Many new possibilities have emerged. The Bim Son cement plant has produced more than 30,000 tonnes after completion of the first production system and is trying to meet its quarterly plan of 50,000 tonnes. The Vinh Phu paper mill, which has also completed the first production system, turned out from 70 to 100 tonnes of product on certain days. Workers at various construction sites have completed on schedule new installations they had chosen as "projects in honour of the party congress".

New factors have also appeared in other economic and social fields. The changes in the managerial structure and the step by step perfection of the piece-rate system and of the systems of wages and incentives have had a healthy impact on the development of production.

The communique stresses that with these new achievements, the emulation movement in honour of the party congress has created a good beginning for 1982 and favourable conditions for all levels and branches of activity to overcome their immediate difficulties and further boost production and thrift to fulfill the state plan.

VO NGUYEN GIAP ADDRESSES ZONING COMMITTEE SESSION

BK121212 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 19 Feb 82 p 1

[VNA report]

[Text] Sen Gen Vo Nguyen Giap, member of the VCP Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and concurrently chairman of the Central Committee for Zoning Economic Areas, recently worked with this Committee and the Central Institute for Zoning and Planning [vienen] phaen vung quy hoachj trung wongj. Attending this working session were among others, representatives from the State Planning Commission and the Office of the Council of Ministers.

Nguyen Van Bien, member of the Standing Body of the Central Committee for Zoning Economic Areas and director of the Central Institute for Zoning and Planning, delivered a report on the past year's tasks and guidelines and tasks for 1982 and subsequent years concerning zoning, planning and distribution of the production force.

The vice chairman of the Council of Ministers praised cadres and personnel of the Central Committee for Zoning Economic Areas and the Central Institute for Zoning and Planning for overcoming difficulties and scoring notable achievements.

Over the past years, the committee and the institute have coordinated with various central and local sectors to initiate many new tasks and score many achievements, thereby contributing positively to formulating various plans to improve economic and social management. Noteworthy were tasks concerning the formulation of a general state plan for developing vast and key areas, such as the Mekong River Delta area and various specialized cultivation areas.

The committee and the institute also participated in various projects aimed at solving a number of the state's objectives in dealing with problems concerning food and grain, labor distribution, the building of models for developing districts, the selection of key and grain-rich districts and so forth. The committee and the institute are accelerating tasks on the establishment of a general chart for distribution of the production force, a key scientific and technical research project of the state.

Vo Nguyen Giap added: Due to shortcomings in the organization and development of scientific branches, tasks concerning the distribution of the production force, zoning and planning have not yet met essential scientific standards, nor have they satisfactorily and promptly met the requirements for perfecting planning and improving social and managerial organization.

Dealing with guidelines and tasks for 1982 and subsequent years, the vice chairman of the Council of Ministers stressed that cadres and personnel of the Central Committee for Zoning Economic Areas and the Central Institute for Zoning and Planning must fully realize the profound importance of the tasks concerning zoning, planning and distribution of the production force in the political, economic and social domains. They must strive to build strong and comprehensive scientific branches in order to supervise party and state organs effectively.

The committee and the institute must closely coordinate with the State Planning Commission, the State Science and Technology Commission, the State Capital Construction Commission and sectors and localities to develop more effectively the establishment of a general plan for the distribution of the production force up to the year 2000. They must also improve the formulation of the state general plan for developing key economic areas and plans for developing provinces and districts. They must combine these tasks and tasks concerning the establishment of state economic and social development strategy with all tasks concerning national economic planning. They must place emphasis on participating in the building of scientific bases for the Third 5-Year Plan and contribute to satisfactory and rational distribution of the production force now and in the future. They must strengthen international cooperation by satisfactorily receiving and utilizing various types of Soviet assistance given to the tasks of establishing our nation's first general plan for distribution of the production force.

Comrade Vo Nguyen Giap specifically urged various echelons of the party committees and leadership cadres to pay attention to consolidating the organization and system of various scientific research organs, building and improving the managerial system and organizing and satisfactorily exploiting the available contingent of cadres while training and fostering research and managerial cadres. They must also pay attention to gradually building up the contingent of scientific cadres for the zoning of economic areas and strengthening the production force to meet new economic and social requirements and the requirements set forth by the VCP congress on tasks concerning the establishment of long-term economic, scientific and technological strategies of our nation.

VO NGUYEN GIAP CHAIRS SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY MEETING

BK131350 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 23 Feb 82 p 1

[VNA report]

[Text] Implementing the Council of Ministers Standing Committee decision on mobilizing scientific, technical and economic managerial cadres to participate in formulating economic and social development plans for the 1981-85 5-year period, Vo Nguyen Giap, member of the VCP Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, is directly supervising various scientific and technical cadres carrying out research programs and applying scientific and technological advances in production and in the daily life of the people.

To date, 69 of the 71 key state-managed scientific and technical programs have been approved by the Council of Ministers. More than 1,000 research projects have been carried out and 336 scientific and technical innovations have been applied by various sectors. These programs have integrated a large contingent of scientists and technicians comprising thousands of doctoral professors, assistant and associate professors, engineers and technical cadres. They have cooperated with economic and technical sectors, scientific research institutes and experimental and production establishments to carry out their tasks. A number of localities have conducted various research subjects and applied some scientific and technical innovations.

Some 30 of these 71 programs have been supervised and carried out on a priority basis in order to meet the urgent requirements of the present economy. These include 11 programs on solving food and grain problems; 2 programs on consumer goods; 4 programs on export problems; 6 programs on energy; 3 programs on raw materials and spare parts; 2 programs on communications and transportation; and 2 programs on production.

On 21 February Comrade Vo Nguyen Giap convened a conference of heads of various key state-managed scientific and technical programs, heads of key programs of various sectors and a number of scientific and technical managerial cadres to review previous tasks and discuss future tasks aimed at accelerating scientific and technical activities to score achievements to greet the forthcoming Fifth VCP Congress.

Minister of Forestry Phan Xuan Dot reported on the initial achievements of the combined agricultural-forestry program which is applying models aimed at developing more than 10 million hectares of bare hills. Minister of Higher and Vocational Education Nguyen Dinh Tu reported on the progress of various research programs designed to combine training and teaching with production and social life. Professors Nguyen Van Hieu, Phan Dinh Dieu, Vu Dinh Cu and heads of research programs from various research institutes and sectors reported on their work and the application of advanced scientific and technical innovations, such as new mathematical methods and cybernetics, to help develop economic and production management and improve the information network. They reported on progress in the application of various new microelectronic techniques, new findings and cosmic research and the formulation of regulations on the use of spectroscopic photos in tasks concerning the zoning and planning of economic areas. They also reported on tasks concerning the inspection of natural resources and chemical products to serve agriculture and develop construction materials for the Mekong River Delta area and tasks which will help solve the raw materials problem of the electronic industry.

The vice chairman of the Council of Ministers commended the scientists and technical cadres for their efforts in scoring initial achievements and technical innovations, especially the combination of scientific and technical research with production and social life.

ARMY DAILY REPORTS ON OIL SECTOR CONFERENCE

BK111213 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 19 Feb 82 p 1

[Do Van Nha report]

[Text] The Gasoline and Oil Department of the General Rear Services Department has recently held a conference of the all-army gasoline and oil sector to discuss measures aimed at using, managing and saving gasoline and oil in the current situation. Numerous delegates from various military regions, army corps, armed branches and services, institutes and schools and units currently performing international duties attended.

The conference was unanimous in its assessment that, thanks to the attention and direct guidance of the comrade commanders at all echelons in achieving a balance among different tasks, many units have saved tens of thousands of liters of gasoline and oil without compromising their building, training, combat readiness and combat duties.

These units included the 1st Military Region, the 5th Military Region, Quyet Thang Corps, Huong Giang Corps, the armored command, the engineers command, the artillery command, the air defense force, the air force, the 52d Trucking Battalion of the General Rear Services Department, and the 32d Regiment of the General Technical Department. Losses resulting from gasoline and oil management and transportation have been reduced from 18 percent to 6 percent.

Recently, however, more than a few units have not only failed to economize in using and managing gasoline and oil, but have also caused serious wastage in many tasks. In particular, there has not been harmonious cooperation between upper and lower specialized organs in carrying out plans for gasoline and oil delivery and receipt.

The delegates suggested that numerous measures be applied in the gasoline and oil saving movement. First of all, importance must be attached to the formulation of gasoline and oil consumption plans. The key measure in saving gasoline and oil is to make precise calculations in any task. At the same time, this measure must be coordinated with other gasoline and oil saving measures in many aspects of the operations of various types of mechanized vehicles and engines.... However, all technical requirements regarding the operations of these mechanical vehicles must be met.

The conference devoted much time to discussing measures aimed at using, managing and saving gasoline and oil on the basis of seriously implementing various regulations, systems and norms regarding gasoline and oil consumption. The conference also discussed measures designed to save gasoline and oil in using technical equipment on land, in the air and on the sea. At the same time, these measures are aimed at reducing fuel losses during the process of transport by land, by sea and by field pipelines, including losses occurring during storage.

The comrade deputy chief of the General Rear Services Department thoroughly explained the directive of the Council of Ministers, the resolution of the VCP Central Committee Military Commission and guidelines of the Ministry of Defense regarding the use, management and saving of gasoline and oil. All people must be motivated to consider the saving of each ounce of fuel, raw material and supplies and each dong to be both a responsibility and a manifestation of revolutionary ethics and quality. Wherever there are gasoline and oil depots and pipelines, we must work in close coordination with the local administration and people to protect them and to prevent losses and illegal use of gasoline and oil.

NORTHERN PROVINCES GRAIN PROCUREMENT REPORTED

BK150928 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 14 Mar 82

[Text] According to the Ministry of Food, as of 28 February the northern provinces and cities had delivered to state granaries a volume of grain equivalent to nearly 70 percent of the total grain collection norm for the 1981 10th-month crop season, with 92 percent of the grain procurement completed, 90 percent of the agricultural tax plan completed and 94 percent of the surplus purchases plan completed. [figures as heard]

Eight provinces and one city in the north have overfulfilled their grain obligation norms. They are Ha Nam Ninh, Ha Son Binh, Thanh Hoa, Ha Bac, Nghe Tinh, Hai Hung, Thai Binh, Son La and Haiphong. Son La, which takes the lead, has overfulfilled its grain obligation norm by 11 percent. Meanwhile, Vinh Phu Province and Hanoi have been able to fulfill only 80 percent of their plan norms.

As many as 92 districts and 2,980 agricultural cooperatives in the north have also fulfilled their grain obligation norms. In Ha Bac, Nghe Tinh and Thanh Hoa Provinces, the movement to encourage the peasants to deliver grain to the state on an exchange or loan basis has produced good initial results.

Grain procurement -- particularly the collection of subsidiary crops, only 33.5 percent of the plan completed -- remains a tremendous task for these provinces. The Ministry of Food, therefore, requests that all localities concentrate guidance and efforts in order to further accelerate this task.

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